

## CLAIMS

1     1.     A method for providing printer information to a user, the method comprising:  
2             displaying a dialog box to a user in response to a user input, the dialog box  
3     including a link to an embedded web server (EWS) of a printer, the EWS maintaining  
4     status information corresponding to the printer; and  
5             in response to the user actuating the link, providing the user with the status  
6     information corresponding to the printer from the EWS.

1     2.     The method of claim 1, wherein:  
2             the dialog box comprises multiple pages; and  
3             in displaying the dialog box to the user, the link is provided on a first of the  
4     pages that is displayed.

1     3.     The method of claim 2, wherein the dialog box is a print dialog box.

1     4.     The method of claim 3, wherein the print dialog box comprises a Properties  
2     actuator, which, in response to actuation thereof, displays multiple pages; and  
3             the link is provided on a first of the pages displayed to the user in response to  
4     actuating the Properties actuator.

1     5.     The method of claim 3, wherein the print dialog box comprises a Properties  
2     actuator, which, in response to actuation thereof, displays multiple pages; and  
3             the link is provided on one of the pages displayed to the user in response to  
4     actuating the Properties actuator.

1        6.        The method of claim 3, wherein the print dialog box comprises a Properties  
2        actuator, which, in response to actuation thereof, displays a Layout page and an About  
3        page; and  
4        the link is provided on the About page.

1        7.        The method of claim 1, wherein the EWS comprises information  
2        corresponding to a service manual of the printer.

1        8.        The method of claim 1, wherein:  
2        the method additionally comprises providing a list of printers from which the  
3        user is able to print, each of the printers having corresponding printer information  
4        associated therewith; and  
5        in response to the user selecting one of the printers of the list, a corresponding  
6        link to a EWS that comprises the printer information associated with the printer  
7        selected is displayed.

1        9.        A method for providing printer status information to a user, the method  
2        comprising:  
3        providing information corresponding to a link to a user of a printer, the link  
4        corresponding to an embedded web server (EWS), the EWS maintaining status  
5        information corresponding to the printer, the link being displayable to the user in  
6        response to a user input such that, in response to the user actuating the link, the user is  
7        provided with the status information corresponding to the printer.

1     10.     The method of claim 9, wherein, in providing information corresponding to a  
2     link to a user of a printer, the information corresponding to the link is installed in the  
3     printer.

1     11.     The method of claim 9, wherein, in providing information corresponding to a  
2     link to a user of a printer, the user installs the information corresponding to the link in  
3     the printer.

1     12.     The method of claim 9, wherein:  
2             the user has access to multiple printers; and  
3             the method further comprises:  
4             providing the user with a link to an EWS that comprises printer information  
5     corresponding to one of the multiple printers currently selected by the user.

1     13.     A system for providing printer status information to a user, the system  
2     comprising:  
3             a status link system operative to display a link to an embedded web server  
4     (EWS) of a printer to a user in response to a user input, the link being displayed in  
5     association with a dialog box, the EWS maintaining status information corresponding  
6     to the printer such that, in response to the user actuating the link, the user is provided  
7     with the status information corresponding to the printer.

1     14.     The system of claim 13, further comprising:  
 2             a computer system comprising:  
 3                 a processor operative to execute instructions;  
 4                 memory communicating with the processor and operative to store  
 5     instruction executable by the processor; and  
 6                 printer interface instructions stored by the memory, the printer interface  
 7     instructions being operative to display a print dialog box to the user in response to a  
 8     user input, the link being displayed in association with the print dialog box.

1     15.     The system of claim 13, wherein:  
 2             the printer interface instructions are executable to display a list of printers with  
 3     which the computer system has access, each of the printers having corresponding  
 4     printer information associated therewith; and  
 5             in response to the user selecting one of the printers of the list, the status link  
 6     system is operative to display a corresponding link to an EWS that maintains the  
 7     printer status information associated with the printer selected.

1     16.     The system of claim 13, further comprising:  
 2             a printer communicating with the computer system.

1     17.     The system of claim 13, wherein the status link system is stored by the printer.

1     18.     The system of claim 13, wherein the status link system is stored by the  
 2     computer system.

1     19.     The system of claim 13, wherein the status link system is stored on a  
2     computer-readable medium.

1     20.     The system of claim 13, further comprising:  
2             means for displaying the link.